

January 30, 1978

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

earliest possible date all data relevant to farm indebtedness. In particular we need to have a quick and accurate assessment of the numbers and types of farms that may be facing foreclosure this year.

Mr. President, beyond the question of how we should revise the farm program, it is particularly clear, it seems to me, that we have to do a better job of expanding our export sales of grain to other countries and of improving international commodity prices. There are a number of actions that can be taken in this area that I believe would be of help. Greater export sales help to strengthen domestic prices and also reduce the farm balance of payments deficit. Significant increase of exports will be of enormous benefit, not only to American farmers, but to the economy as a whole.

In the near future I intend to introduce specific legislative proposals and other recommended courses of action to further this goal of expanded grain exports.

Mr. President the American Agriculture Movement has dramatically and effectively called to the Nation's attention the serious economic plight of much of our agriculture community. Their call for economic equality and their fair share of the economic pie is understood and endorsed by a great majority of the Congress. I would be less than honest if I were to say that a majority of my colleagues and I endorse all their policy demands at this time but I am convinced that I am right in saying to the American Agriculture Movement and to the American agriculture community as a whole that the Congress will take whatever steps are necessary to preserve the family farm. On this I believe there is universal agreement. We must now work out the procedures by which this commitment is to be fulfilled.

GEORGIA SUPPORTS FARMERS

Mr. TALMADGE. Mr. President, the Georgia State Senate recently adopted a resolution expressing their support of the American farmer and urging the U.S. Congress to take every possible action to strengthen American agriculture and improve farm income. The current farm situation is indeed a real and serious problem which affects the well-being of all Americans. It is imperative that we focus attention on the financial pressures presently confronting our farmers and take immediate action to help revitalize the faltering farm economy.

For myself and my colleague, Senator Nunn, I bring Georgia Senate Resolution 286 to the attention of my colleagues in the Senate, and ask unanimous consent that it be printed in the Record.

There being no objection, the resolution was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

Resolution
Recognizing the plight of the American farmer and urging the United States Congress to take whatever steps are necessary and appropriate to assure economic parity for the farmer; and for other purposes

Whereas, the backbone of our free enterprise system and our American way of life is

and always has been the untiring contributions of our farmers and since the founding of this great nation the farmer has been the major source of stability and strength of America; and

Whereas, the American farmers has led the world in agricultural innovation and in solving chronic food shortages which have plagued the developed and undeveloped world alike; and

Whereas, agribusiness is the largest economic activity in Georgia and the citizens of the State of Georgia are deeply and forever indebted to Georgia farmers for their contributions to the overall standard of living and way of life Georgians enjoy and take pride in; and

Whereas, while the standard of living for many segments of our nation's economy has steadily increased, the farmer has been receiving a steadily decreasing share of the national income and this has led to an overall weakening of the agribusiness morale and if this adverse trend plaguing our farmers is not reversed, it most definitely will lead to a national economic crisis and will undermine our national strength in every area; and

Whereas, after suffering through escalating production costs, declining market prices, and extremely harsh weather conditions which literally destroyed whole crops, the farmers, out of virtual desperation, have joined together throughout this great State and nation under the banner of the American Agriculture Movement to peacefully, but dramatically, focus national attention on the economic woes of the agribusiness community; and

Whereas, although the Georgia Senate realizes the Congressional Delegation of the State of Georgia understands the plight of Georgia's farmers, there are those in the Congress of the United States who don't even have a single farmer in their district.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Georgia Senate that this body does hereby strongly support the farmer and hereby urge the United States Congress to take whatever steps are necessary and appropriate to assure economic parity for the farmer.

Be it further resolved that all members of the Georgia Senate are individually and collectively in support of the farmer and intend to do all in their power and authority to help the farmer resolve his economic dilemma and regain his long established leadership role in virtually every facet of American life.

Be it further resolved that the Secretary of the Senate is hereby authorized and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this Resolution to each member of the Georgia Congressional Delegation.

CIA DIRECTOR DEFENDS AGENCY'S SECRECY

Mr. CHAFFEE. Mr. President, for the last year I have been privileged to serve as a member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. As a member of that committee, I have time and time again been made aware of the dilemmas caused in this open and free society by the secrecy required to protect vital intelligence activities.

Adm. Stansfield Turner's thoughts on secrecy deserve to be read by all those who are trying to determine the appropriate place of intelligence activities in our system of government. Our Nation is fortunate to have the service of the dedicated and capable men and women who make up our CIA under Admiral Turner's able leadership.

Mr. President, I wish to share with my colleagues an article which appeared in

the Providence Journal on January 13, entitled, "CIA Director Defends Agency's Secrecy." I ask unanimous consent that it be printed in the Record.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the Record, as follows:

CIA DIRECTOR DEFENDS AGENCY'S SECRECY

WASHINGTON.—There have been stories in the media in recent weeks concerning a new book—*Decent Interval*, by Frank Snepp—that is critical of the CIA's role in the closing days of Vietnam. News stories question whether the CIA had the right to review this book or, by extension, any work before publication and, if so, whether it had the right to excise portions it reasonably considered damaging to national security.

The answer to the first question is unequivocally yes. The CIA had the right to review because the author had signed a specific agreement to that effect as part of the terms of his employment with the agency. At no time prior to publication did he challenge the validity of that agreement. Rather, he claims there is some higher right that gives him the privilege of breaking that oath.

Yet, all of the evidence upon which Snepp bases that rationale was available to him when he met with me on May 17 of last year. In that meeting he explicitly promised me that he would fulfill his written obligation to provide us his manuscript for review. More than that, he reaffirmed this obligation a few days later in writing.

The CIA and I, as director, accepted this man at his word. We made no effort to monitor the progress of his activities. He simply violated both his own oath and our trust. Moreover, his publisher, Random House, and his initial TV interviewer on "60 Minutes," have also acknowledged that they were party to this deliberate evasion of written and spoken promises.

Why do people and organizations feel that duplicity is justified in circumstances like these? Because, I suspect, of an erroneous premise, clearly expressed in some of the newspaper articles on this case, that government employees inevitably place covering their and their agencies' reputations above their duties and even above the law.

This is a common anti-establishment reaction that has become so familiar in recent years. Its fallacy lies in the absence of any evidence that the CIA, over the past year and a half when Snepp was writing his book, deliberately used secrecy to protect its reputation. To the contrary, the public record attests unequivocally to the agency's willingness to face the past squarely whatever the effect on its public reputation. The self-revelations last July of the MKULTRA drug-abuse activities of the 1950s and the 1960s are only the most recent examples of this forthright policy.

What is at stake, however, is a fundamental issue for our society. If the society cannot trust the judgment of its public servants regarding what should or should not be withheld from the public, then the society can in fact have no secrets at all. The logical extension of the (Daniel) Ellsberg-Snepp syndrome is that any of our 210 million citizens is entitled to decide what should or should not be classified information.

Secrecy is, of course, dangerous. It can be abused. Yet, some things must be secret. Clearly there must be checks and balances on those who decide. But because these judgments are difficult does not mean that the chaos of no regulation at all is to be preferred. I believe that the public recognizes the necessity for some secrecy in our modern society. There is no question that we each recognize it in our individual lives. Nor is there a question that we recognize it in the extension to government. None of us is so

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